REACH HIGHER

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event
Date August 8, 2022
Pay to the order of St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation
$ 250,000
Two Hundred Fifty Thousand
Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event
Whirlpool Corporation's Partner Companies
Date August 8, 2022
Pay to the order of Lakeshore Education Foundation
$ 250,000
Two Hundred Fifty Thousand
Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event
Whirlpool Corporation's Partner Companies
Date August 8, 2022
Pay to the order of Benton Harbor Education Foundation
$ 250,000
Two Hundred Fifty Thousand
Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event
Whirlpool Corporation's Partner Companies

THANK YOU, WHIRLPOOL. READ MORE PAGE 3.

APPLY FOR A GRANT TODAY!

Grant Applications now open LEFONLINE.ORG/GRANTS

READ MORE PAGE 2.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Continuous learning among our educators is critical.

READ MORE PAGE 5.

trustees

JC Anderson
Leslie Arbanas
Ryan Arnt
Sophie Bauchet
Ludo Beaufils
Kate Beckrow
Zeb Deitrich
Chad Deja
Greg Eding
Janine Harrison
Gyl Kasewurm
Lori Marciniak
Elizabeth Meeth
Phil Molloy
Julia Pechtel
Jennifer Powers
Jim Roberts
Bill Scaletta
Lewis Scott
Heather Valenziano
Lori VonKoenig
Kathleen Wolf

GRANT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Turn Your Educational Idea into Reality with the Help of LEF

It's now easier than ever to apply for LEF grant funding. We've updated our grant application system and timeline to help streamline the process for students, staff, and teachers at Lakeshore Public Schools. If you think you have the next great idea for our schools, we'd love to hear about it. We're currently accepting submissions for the following grants:

Professional Development

Apply NOW – January 31

The Professional Development Grant is for staff who seek to bring continual energy, talent and passion to their roles. Do you have a great opportunity to develop and strengthen your professional talents and skills by attending a conference, seminar, workshop, college course or other experience?

Patti Florian Student Enrichment

Apply NOW – March 12

If you are a Lakeshore student in any grade, kindergarten through high school, this grant may be of interest to you! Patti Florian Student Enrichment Grants are awarded for activities or events that promote self-improvement through exploration, discovery, study and interaction.

Foundation Project

Apply NOW – January 31

The best ideas in education come from teachers. If your proposal costs over $2,500 you should consider applying for a Foundation Project Grant. Do you have a big idea that would benefit a large constituency of Lakeshore students, staff, and/or the community?

Staff Support

Apply NOW – January 31

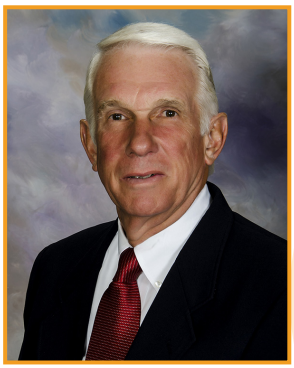
Are you a Lakeshore employee with an idea for a quality educational experience that would benefit Lakeshore students, staff, and/or the community? If your proposal costs up to $2,500 and could be completed within the year following the grant award, you should consider applying for Staff Support grant.

LEFONLINE.ORG/GRANTS/

LEF
LAKESHORE
EXCELLENCE
FOUNDATION

Excellent schools are the foundation of excellent communities. When you invest in Lakeshore Public Schools through the LEF, you are investing in the quality of life in our community both today and tomorrow.

GLOBAL COMPANY SUPPORTS LOCAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS


J.C. Anderson, Chairman

Many of you have either heard or read about the community-oriented golf outing that Whirlpool Corporation hosts in August each year. This event started in 2003. Having retired from Whirlpool after 39 years, and being the Chairman of the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation (LEF), I have a very unique perspective on this event. After reading this, I hope you have a greater appreciation for the significant favorable financial impact the outing has on our local community, several non-profit organizations including the LEF, and our Lakeshore students.

Initially, the outing was focused on creating a large charitable donation for the Boys and Girls Club of Benton Harbor (BGC-BH). Jeff Fettig, Whirlpool Chairman and CEO at the time, led the critical thinking devising a plan to raise funds for use at the BGC-BH. An invitation was sent to Whirlpool's major suppliers of services, parts, and components. They were invited to come to the St. Joseph/Benton Harbor area for a long weekend and play three challenging golf courses…Lost Dunes, Point of Woods, and Harbor Shores. Along with the golf came the dining each evening and a large buffet on Monday night (the last night) at Harbor Shores. Supporting participants were made aware that the proceeds would be presented to local nonprofits.

For the supplier participants there is great golf, gifts, dining, exposure to Whirlpool leadership, and rubbing shoulders with fellow suppliers. The supplier cost to participate in this event is fairly steep. In the end, however, everyone realized that this is a great cause, more recently netting approximately $2,500,000 for distribution to our local non-profits. As mentioned, BGC-BH was the initial recipient of the donation. This provided for the development of their improved facilities and programming. The generation of $2,500,000 certainly did not occur the first year but the annual net figure has continued to grow over the 19 annual outings to this incredible amount.

As the success of the August outing grew, Whirlpool continued to support the BGC-BH but then brought in the First Tee as a charitable recipient. Then, in 2014 the three local school foundations (St.Joseph, Benton Harbor, and Lakeshore) were also included in the funds distribution. Our first check in 2014 was $150,000 and this year we were blown away with a check for $250,000! It is great to receive this check from Whirlpool on behalf of the LEF knowing what this amount does for our fundraising. In a nutshell, a sizable donation like this enables us to speed up the implementation of projects and gives us the capability to think about bigger projects, which create greater opportunities for educational excellence throughout the Lakeshore School District.

On a personal note, as a Whirlpool retiree, I take a lot of pride in my former employer supporting the local community, staff and students in such a grand manner. In this day and age, public corporations are under great pressure for earnings improvement but even with that burden, Whirlpool has been able to provide this generous funding. We live in a better community as a result of Whirlpool Corporation providing resources to help develop our students and staff. We are continually grateful for their support within our community.

Now….you know the rest of the story!

J.C. Anderson
Chairman, Lakeshore Excellence Foundation

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION TRAINING

The Lakeshore Excellence Foundation was recently joined by Lakeshore High School Prism Club and Diversity Club members, and local residents, for a special Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training session.

Afiya Latham, Co-Owner of Express Employment Professionals

Afiya Latham is Co-Owner of Express Employment Professionals, an award-winning staffing company in the U.S., Canada, and South Africa. Recently named a Corp! Magazine Diversity Business Leader, Afiya serves as a coach, mentor, and public speaker empowering women of all ages to cultivate their talents and seize their opportunities. As a leader of DEI Training, she is a vital reference and first contact for companies seeking to implement or expand DEI programs within their organizations.

The event, organized by LEF's DEI committee, was offered as part of our organization's ongoing commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in an effort to reduce the achievement gap and support building a culture of inclusion in our school district.

The LEF Board of Trustees welcomed local entrepreneur and DEI Trainer, Afiya Latham, to Lakeshore High School, where she offered insight into the many benefits of a diverse workforce, and how we can all better think with a broader perspective to achieve a deeper trust from our students and staff, that in turn creates an environment where all children receive the best education possible.

Through interactive exercises, discussion, and explanation, those in attendance walked away with a better understanding of what each component of DEI truly means, and how it can be put into practice to make sure every child has the ability to succeed. One example Latham used explained the difference between equity and equality.

"Equality means each individual or group of people is given the same resources or opportunities," said Latham. "Equality is not enough. Equity recognizes that each person has different circumstances and allocates the exact resources and opportunities needed to reach an equal outcome."

Latham went on to explain that belonging and equity are connected, and pressed our district and educators to ask students what they need to do well and what that looks like. She said by collecting data on these initiatives the district can hold itself accountable - achieving true excellence.

"Our community is getting more diverse, not less," said Latham. "We have to plan for it to make sure we are serving the needs of all students who live here and go to our school district. The school board and the superintendent have a wonderful opportunity to set the tone for our community by supporting policies that will keep all students in an equitable position when it comes to academics, the social learning community and to prepare students for being residents of a greater and even more diverse world beyond where we are right now."

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Collaborating to ensure all students succeed

Angie White from Solution Tree.

Teachers and administrators from all different levels in our district gathered this past October to learn how to respond when students, or parents, need help with the learning process. The training, administered by Angie Freese, is part of the district's and LEF's commitment to Professional Learning Communities or PLC's. PLC's empower educators to work collaboratively in cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve.

Freese comes to Lakeshore from Solution Tree - widely regarded as a global leader in professional development for educators. With over two decades in education, Freese brings a unique blend of experiences that include: classroom teacher, building administrator, curriculum specialist, and district leader. This is the second year the district has worked with Freese to help LPS educators and administrators tackle challenges that would otherwise prevent students from succeeding in the classroom and beyond. The training comes on the heels of a summer conference where 45 Lakeshore Public Schools employees attended an in-person professional development session in Grand Rapids.

"Without LEF funding we could not offer continued professional development opportunities like these," says Lakeshore Superintendent Greg Eding. "The district uses Title II funding to pay for Ms. Freese to come and work with our staff, and LEF pays for the summer PLC's. When combined, the district's and LEF's commitment allows us to take the theory of how best to improve learning outcomes for students and put that into practice."

Professional Development for Current Staff

CHALLENGE: Continuous learning among our educators is critical. We had established late-start Wednesdays to allow the staff to collaborate, but we hadn't given them the ongoing training to help make the best use of this time.

SOLUTION: LEF is funding training for all staff in support of PLC's – **Professional Learning Communities**. The outcome of this grant will result in continuous job-embedded training for educators and improved learning for all students, every day.

$225,000 Investment

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

LEF has committed $225,000 over three years to fund the training of our staff on PLC's. To learn more, or donate, visit: https://lefonline.org/

Grants In Action

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE RELATIONSHIPS

A wise person once said "A relationship is not based on the length of time you spend together, it's based on the foundation you've built together."

Lakeshore's Sister School Exchange Program (SSEP)

Lakeshore's Sister School Exchange Program (SSEP) bravely embarked on a 3 week trip to Mönchen-gladbach Germany last spring. Our group was the first school exchange to travel since the onset of COVID-19. During their time in Germany, our students along with Ms. Amy Perkins and Mr. Jeff Yauchstetter were housed with their partner families, living with and attending classes with their peers. The group also collaborated together on a sustainability-focused project. Both the German participants and our Lakeshore group visited an active lignite mine as well as a wind farm, learning about clean energy.

At the end of September our Lakeshore hosts welcomed their German counterparts for a 2 ½ week stay to enjoy our community and beyond. During their time in the states, host families helped the German students experience life here, touring a variety of interesting places in Michigan, Illinois and even as far as Kansas!

While in our community, both the host students and their German counterparts continued their engagement with sustainability, learning from Cook Nuclear Plant, Whirlpool Corporation, a conversation with Congressman Fred Upton and visiting a solar array with Inovateus Solar in South Bend, Indiana.

The days flew by, with each of the families who participated wanting to spend a few more weeks together with their German visitors. Although the days weren't long enough, the foundation of lifelong friendships were forged. These are relationships that have broadened the perspectives of all who participated.

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation is proud to sponsor a portion of this amazing Sister School Exchange Program through a Foundation Grant.

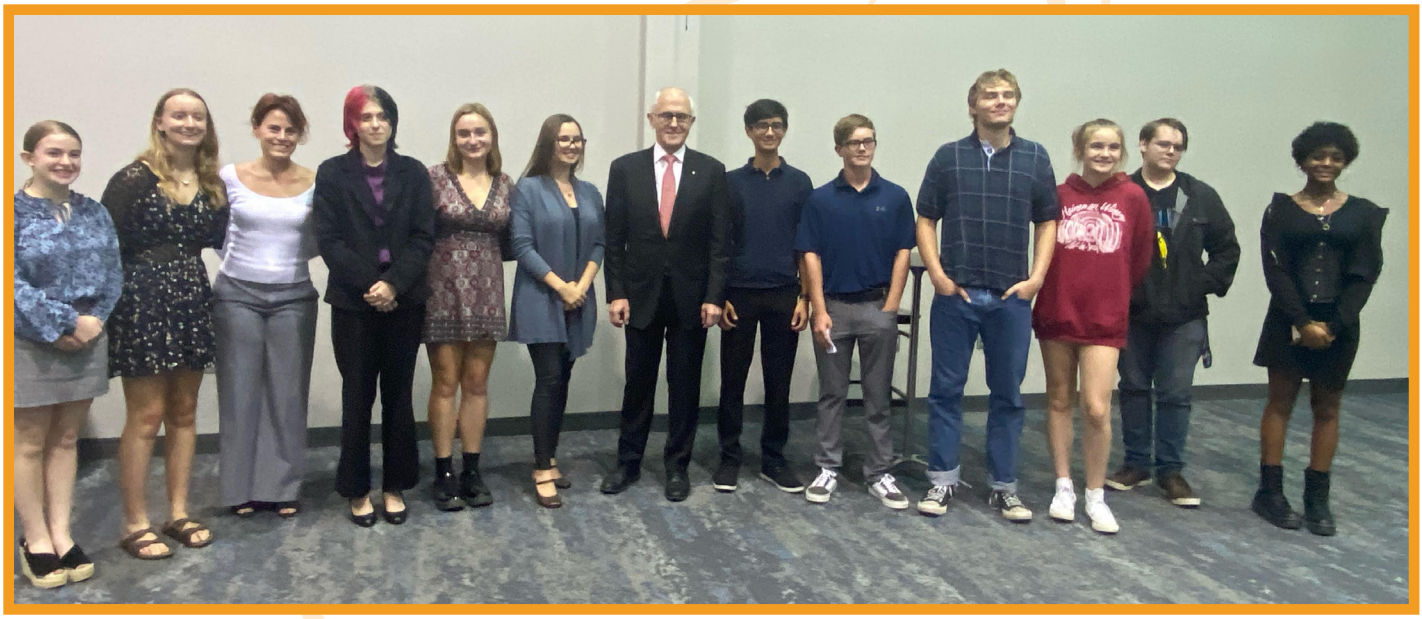
LMS: NEW BOOKS

Lakeshore Middle School students were excited to see new books when they returned to the classroom this fall. A grant, awarded by the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation, allowed teachers to purchase new copies of student favorite reads, plus add new titles and authors for LMS book clubs to enjoy! At LEF, we know Reading Matters, and we're happy to see the students so captivated by the new additions to their classroom libraries.

Malcolm Turnbill

ECONOMIC CLUB SPEAKER EVENT

How many high school students get the opportunity to meet famous people on a regular basis?



Students enjoy the Economic Club os Southwestern Michigan Speaker Series.

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation creates that opportunity on a regular basis for our students at Lakeshore High School and other neighboring schools through an ongoing grant. In September, students were able to get up close and personal with former Australian Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, who spoke at the Economic Club of Southwestern Michigan Speaker Series.

Turnbull is an interesting guy whose career spans journalism, law, business and politics. He entered the Australian House of Representatives in 2004, then served as the 29th Prime Minister from 2015 to 2018. Throughout his political career, Turnbull has been a strong advocate of environmental issues with a focus on water management and renewable energy.

Students who attended were able to ask The Honorable Malcolm Turnbull questions in a short session before the speech he gave to the larger audience.

If you are a local high school student that is interested in taking part in one of these unique opportunities, please contact your school's guidance counselor.

LEF ONLINE AUCTION

The annual LEF Online Auction is just a few months away and we are on the hunt for fun prizes.

We're calling on business owners, and individual donors, to consider donating gift certificates, items, and experiences for our virtual event that raises thousands each year. We are always so thankful for the support we receive from the local community. It makes a world of difference for the students, staff and community of Lakeshore Public Schools. To donate to the LEF Online Auction, contact Lori Marciniak, our Vice Chair of Projects, at lorimarciniak3@gmail.com. Stay tuned for your chance to bid during our event – the gavel drops in the New Year!

A DREAM COME TRUE

Paving the way for unlimited opportunities.

Have you ever dreamt of becoming a football player or a coach in the National Football League (NFL)? Chances are, if you are female, you might have given it a fleeting thought but never believed it could become a reality. Football has traditionally been a man's sport, played by men, coached by men and officiated by men.

But times are definitely changing.

As a part of its ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion, the NFL hosted its sixth annual Women's Careers in Football Forum this past March. The forum was created to break down the barriers to inclusion and connect women with leaders in the professional football space to opportunities within coaching, scouting and football operations. According to The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES), women made up about 38.8% of the NFL league office roles, 25.3% of teams' senior administrations and 1.5% of team assistant coaches last season.

Assistant Coach Suze Miller and some of the team managers.

This season, Lakeshore Football broke barriers locally and made history by hiring its first female Assistant Coach, Suze Miller. She proudly posted on her social media feed, "A dream came true. I ran through the Lakeshore Lancer football helmet...not as an alumnus, or a Mom, or a teacher...I ran through the helmet as one of the coaches – the first female coach in the Lakeshore Football Program."

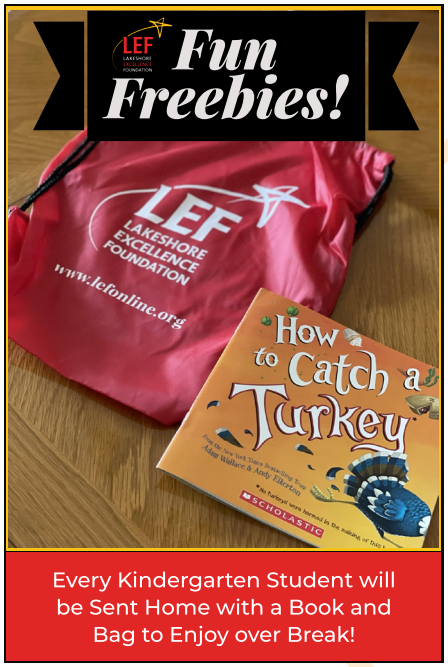
By day, you'll find Mrs. Miller in the high school teaching English and serving as the Academic Challenge Coach. During the football season, her days blend into nights as she takes on her second role as one of the Assistant Football Coaches. Miller is in charge of the program's 11 managers who all just happen to be female as well: Ava Barker, Addison Dale, Emma Muzumara, Azusena Martinez-Gutierrez, Mia Norbey, Anna Roe, Maddie Schmidt, Maya Schmidt, Krystina Smith, Linden Warnock and Grace DeBest. They record practices and games along with helping the equipment managers ensure the team has what they need. Essentially, if the players and coaches need something, this group is on it!

Miller never thought her career would involve football. As a 1999 graduate of Lakeshore High School herself, Miller was a member of the marching band and one of the track captains, competing in shot put. Miller said "Pre-August, I knew little if anything about football. I didn't think about plays. I usually picked the Super Bowl winners by the team's colors. I laugh at how naive I was." Miller loves that this opportunity allows people to be a part of something bigger than themselves. "The managers and I are here because we love being part of the team. We all have our roles and we use our strengths to find our spot within the team," said Miller.

Continued NEXT PAGE.

BOOKS FOR KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

Parents of Lakeshore kindergarten students will want to watch for a special delivery this Thanksgiving holiday. As part of our commitment to enrich the lives of every student, from the moment they enter school, the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation purchases books each year for the incoming kindergarten class. Every kindergarten student from our three elementary schools will receive a new book and LEF drawstring bag to bring home and keep this Thanksgiving! We hope children enjoy turning the pages of these fun editions as their love of reading grows!



Every Kindergarten Student will be Sent Home with a Book and Bag to Enjoy over Break!

WHAT WE DO

The LEF collaborates with staff at Lakeshore Public Schools to identify and support worthy projects that will enrich and supplement the learning opportunities in our schools. We also make a variety of grants for students, teachers, staff and community members to support innovation and professional development.

Visit lefonline.org to learn more about LEF!

Our mission is to "acquire and distribute resources in support of Lakeshore Public Schools for programs and projects aimed at enriching or supplementing learning opportunities for students, staff, and community."

What happens on the football field isn't all that different from what happens in the classroom. As an educator, Miller believes that it is her job to find a connection with each student and build a relationship. "Taking on the role as an Assistant Coach, I can see skills learned on the football field helping my students academically in the classroom." When she originally took the field, Miller was a bit nervous and unsure of herself. She became a student out on the football field. Slowly, they all started gaining confidence. Miller loves that the players, who are her students in the classroom, are also teaching her things. Together, they've come a long way.

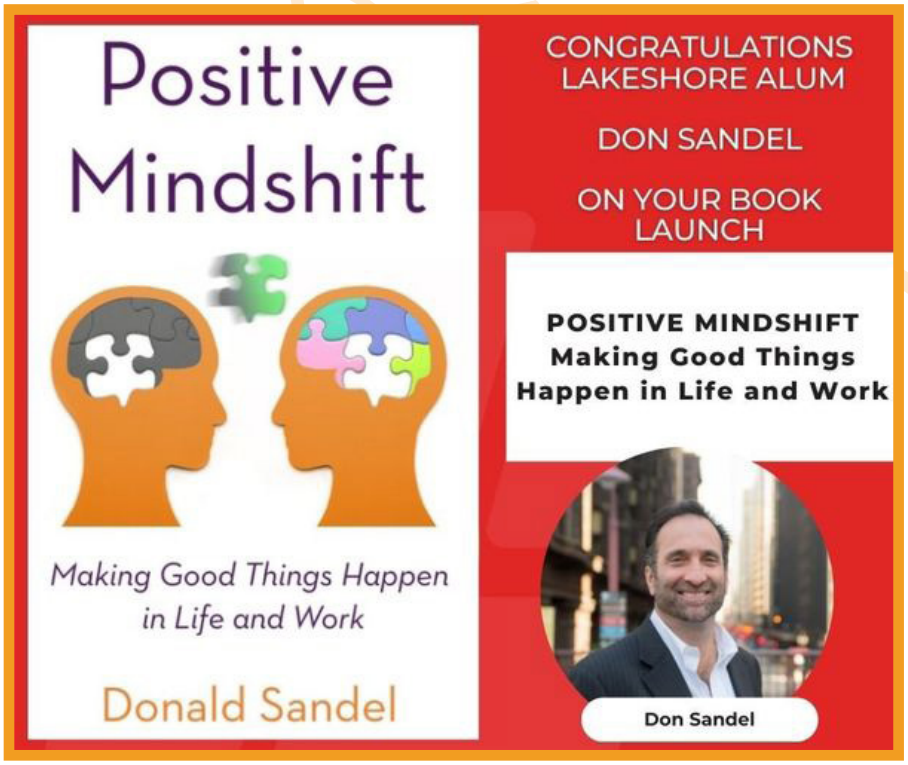
In a world that is so divisive, this is an opportunity to unite and while working with each other's strengths, empowering each other, the team, and the community.

Football managers, along with their teammates, are learning real world skills that are critical in the world we live in today. Responsibility, optimism, time management, teamwork, integrity, listening skills, honesty and most important: grit. The perfect "plays" in life don't always go the right way. It's at these moments when a person finds out what they are made of.

Coach Miller has a message for everyone, "Do something new. Do something challenging. And do something scary every so often; these are the true secrets to staying young."

Lakeshore football is breaking down barriers to inclusion. If a coach is qualified, knowledgeable, caring and respected, the important character lessons learned through sports will be taught regardless of whether the coach is a man or a woman. Removing these barriers to inclusion based on old gender roles may help to make more dreams a reality.

How will you practice inclusivity in your daily life?



CLASS OF 1973!

Attention Lakeshore High School Class of '73 - Your 50 year reunion is approaching fast, and the Lakeshore Alumni Association wants to make sure your class is informed about this fun, annual event.

The Class of 1973 is sending out an invitation and "Save the Date" information for graduation and reunion festivities, which include dinner, music, and a special meet and greet for all in attendance.

Your Class contact is Robin Ross. You can contact Robin with questions at rrobinross@comcast.net. Receive important announcements and keep in touch with other Lakeshore Grads by filling out your contact information at: lefonline.org/alumni/get-registered/ Go Lakeshore!

REACH HIGHER RAFFLE DRAWING RESULTS

Three lucky winners were chosen during LEF's Reach Higher Raffle Drawing September 19, 2022.

Participants purchased tickets for a chance to claim monetary prizes and support Lakeshore Public Schools at the same time. Congratulations to our big winners: First prize went to Kevin Bushu, our second place winner was Noah Deitrich, and Steve Winkler rounded out the top three! All money raised will be used for LEF's mission that supports grants and educational programs for students, staff and teachers in our school district. Thank you to all who bought tickets to help support the cause! We appreciate your support.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RAFFLE WINNERS!

1st Prize $3,000 - Kevin Bushu

2nd Prize $1,500 - Noah Deitrich

3rd Prize $500 - Steve Winkler

LEF LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

ART AROUND TOWN 2022

Celebrating Artists Since 2006

On June 7 we celebrated 19 young artists and their artwork that was selected to represent Art Around Town 2022, the annual program that showcases young talent throughout the Lakeshore Public Schools system. The reception took place at ***The Curious Kids Museum*** and we were thrilled to have a large group of students, families, teachers and LEF board members attend. The artwork was hung throughout the museum for guests to view throughout the summer, when it would be moved to various businesses throughout the area who "lease" the pieces to showcase for a year. Unfortunately, there was a fire in the museum that caused the artwork to go into "remediation hibernation" for the summer. It has recently been released to be "leased" for 2022!

CELEBRATED ARTISTS

Lakeshore High School: Michaela Norbey, Josh Tomlinson, Zetah Smigielski, Baylee Price
Lakeshore Middle School: Josephine Simpson, Sophie Waller, Logan Hendrix, Ami Bhatti, Regan Schmidt
Roosevelt Elementary: Tiegan Dolezan, Adelle Prosser, Lucia Aranda
Stewart Elementary: Hadley McLeod, Cooper Roberto, Sophia Ryan,
Hollywood Elementary: Taylor Marquardt, Piper Kuhl, Wyatt Florian, Kennedy Arney

Thank you to **Nancy Anderson, Hilary Burchett, Holly Davis and Liz Andrews,** the art teachers who help foster and expand the talents of our students and pull pieces of artwork throughout the year that are submitted to be juried for Art Around Town. Thank you to professional artist and Manager of Education and Interpretation at Krasl Art Center, Nathan Margoni, for being our juror this year.

VIEW AAT ART AT: lefonline.org/art-around-town

Since 2006, the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation has sponsored Art Around Town, featuring student artwork placed in the St. Joseph and Stevensville area. LEF supports professional framing and seeks local businesses that will "lease" the artwork for the season. Each piece can be sponsored and displayed in your business for $200. All donations for the lease help cover the cost of framing and assist with future LEF programs.

Thank you to the businesses that have leased and proudly shown student artwork in 2019 (the last year artwork was juried and placed due to Covid) and to those who will lease the newly available pieces in 2022!

If you are interested in sponsoring budding young artists, contributing to LEF, or learning more about Art Around Town, please contact, Chair of Art Around Town and LEF Board Member, Heather Valenziano, at: hvalenziano@me.com

Artist: Logan Hendrix

Artist: Michaela Norbey

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Did you know you can buy the exact same items, at the same price, and LEF will receive a percentage of your sale?

Simply go to Smile.Amazon.com and choose Lakeshore Excellence Foundation as your charitable organization.

Make your online shopping count!

It's as simple as going to:

smile.amazon.com

LAKESHORE Alumni

Ways to keep in touch ...

1. Join the Lakeshore High School Alumni Facebook Group:
   Search for "Lakeshore High School Alumni" and Join the Group

2. Register on the LEF website for email updates: **lefonline.org/alumni/get-registered**

If you graduated from Lakeshore High School, this is a great way to stay in touch!

Lakeshore Excellence Foundation
ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund is our long-term strategy to funding the LEF mission of learning for generations to come.

Annually, the LEF Board evaluates the health of the fund, makes contributions based on giving and project needs, and reinvests the earned interest. If you are interested in learning more about the Endowment Fund, please contact J.C. Anderson at (269) 921-2513 or email at anderjcna@gmail.com.

THE FACTS

The state funding for public schools in Michigan continues to be a challenge and Lakeshore is in the bottom 25% when it comes to funding. Yes, 75% of Michigan public school districts receive more state funding on a revenue per student basis!

SIX WAYS TO GIVE

1. Donate conveniently online
2. Swing those clubs
3. Become a Lakeshore Lancer Leader
4. Give us your two cents
5. Endowment Fund
6. Planned Giving

LEF
LAKESHORE EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION

Learn more about LEF

Visit our website: LEFonline.org
Follow us on Facebook @LakeshoreExcellence
Read our newsletter in the Lakeshore Light
Contact our Chairman, J.C. Anderson (anderjcna@gmail.com)